

CLAIMS

- [1] A PWM drive circuit comprising:
- a load driving field-effect transistor;
 - a through rate control portion for reducing a through rate of a voltage based on a PWM voltage and then feeding the resultant voltage to a gate of the load driving field-effect transistor; and
 - a gate voltage control portion for stopping an operation of the through rate control portion and pulling up or down a gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to a predetermined value upon detecting during a transition period of a gate voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor that an output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor has almost been inverted and become approximately equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on.
- [2] The PWM drive circuit of claim 1, wherein
- as a result of detection of the PWM voltage and the output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor, only when a value of the PWM voltage is found to be at a level at which the load driving field-effect transistor is turned on and a value of the output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor is found to be approximately equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on, the gate voltage control portion stops the operation of the through rate control portion and pulls up or down the gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to the predetermined value.

- [3] A motor drive circuit comprising:
- a PWM voltage generation circuit for generating a PWM voltage; and
- a PWM drive circuit for driving a motor based on the PWM voltage outputted from the PWM voltage generation circuit, wherein
- the PWM drive circuit includes
- a load driving field-effect transistor,
- a through rate control portion for reducing a through rate of a voltage based on the PWM voltage and then feeding the resultant voltage to a gate of the load driving field-effect transistor, and
- a gate voltage control portion for stopping an operation of the through rate control portion and pulling up or down a gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to a predetermined value upon detecting during a transition period of a gate voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor that an output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor has almost been inverted and become approximately equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on.

- [4] The motor drive circuit of claim 3, wherein
- as a result of detection of the PWM voltage and the output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor, only when a value of the PWM voltage is found to be at a level at which the load driving field-effect transistor is turned on and the output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor is found to be approximately equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on, the gate voltage control portion stops the operation of the through rate control portion and pulls

up or down the gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to the predetermined value.

- [5] The motor drive circuit of claim 3, wherein
the PWM voltage generation circuit generates the PWM voltage according to a rotor position of the motor.
- [6] The motor drive circuit of claim 4, wherein
the PWM voltage generation circuit generates the PWM voltage according to a rotor position of the motor.
- [7] A DC-DC converter comprising a PWM drive circuit, wherein
the PWM drive circuit includes
a load driving field-effect transistor,
a through rate control portion for reducing a through rate of a voltage based on a PWM voltage and then feeding the resultant voltage to a gate of the load driving field-effect transistor, and
a gate voltage control portion for stopping an operation of the through rate control portion and pulling up or down a gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to a predetermined value upon detecting during a transition period of a gate voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor that an output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor has almost been inverted and become approximately equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on.

- [8] The DC-DC converter of claim 7, wherein
 as a result of detection of the PWM voltage and the output voltage of the load
 driving field-effect transistor, only when a value of the PWM voltage is found to be at
 a level at which the load driving field-effect transistor is turned on and a value of the
 output voltage of the load driving field-effect transistor is found to be approximately
 equal to a value obtained when the load driving field-effect transistor is completely on,
 the gate voltage control portion stops the operation of the through rate control portion
 and pulls up or down the gate potential of the load driving field-effect transistor to the
 predetermined value.